



News & Events

University News & Information

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California

Feb. 20, 2004

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Les Ballets de Montreal Performs at Cal Poly March 19

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA -- Solidly established on the international dance scene, Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal celebrates the body in motion with a dynamic performance at 8 p.m. on Friday, March 19, 2004 in the Cal Poly Theatre.

"Sexy choreography, indefatigable dancers...a non-stop cyclone of dizzying, polished moves." (Los Angeles Times)

Cal Poly Arts presents Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal, a company which continues to evolve with the vitality and openness that have been their hallmark since its inception in 1972.

Since 1998, artistic director Louis Robitaille -- a dancer of internationally-acclaimed virtuosity -- has transformed Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal, infusing the troupe with fresh energy and a personality embodying the new century and opening the company to new contemporary trends.

In the course of his career, Robitaille has encountered many of the outstanding artists of his (and previous) generations -- personalities like Rudolph Nureyev, Rudy Brians, Michael Denard, Michael Baryshnikov, and Vincent Warren, all of whom helped shape Robitaille's artistic identity and his interpretative approach.

All thirteen highly-trained, energetic Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal's dancers have a strong background in classical dance. The vocabulary of the new repertoire is a direct outgrowth of ballet, combined with more contemporary currents, such as jazz and neo-classical styles. The result is the creation of whimsical and inventive pieces.

Robitaille's core mission is to showcase the interpreters' talents while encouraging a new generation of choreographers. One of the company's primary objectives is "to show the body, pay homage to the splendour of its mechanism, of its strength and sensuality." (Le Devoir Magazine)

In the Montreal Daily La Presse, Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal's art was described as "...a dynamic, extremely physical dance, expressing the creative energy of young choreographers who give it life, and of the excellent dancers who give it form."

Tickets for the performance are \$32 & \$38, with student discounts available, and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088. Order on-line at www.pacslo.org.

Sponsored by Patricia McNamara in loving memory of Francis McNamara; the Peach Tree Inn; KCBX 90.1 FM

For audio and video samples of Cal Poly Arts events, visit www.calpolyarts.org.

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